

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 198690
ORIGIN EB-08

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INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR PHELAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, RP

SUBJECT: TEXTILE AGREEMENT

REFS: (A) MANILA 13079 (B) SEOUL 6515 (C) STATE 183179

1. DURING DISCUSSIONS HERE IN WASHINGTON FRIDAY, AUGUST 4
BETWEEN A PHILIPPINE TEXTILE PANEL HEADED BY UNDERSECRETARY
VALDEPENAS AND A U.S. INTERAGENCY GROUP, AGREEMENT WAS
REACHED ON ISSUES RAISED REFTEL A. VALDEPENAS EXPRESSED
HOPE THAT NOTES WOULD BE EXCHANGED QUICKLY AND WE ASSURED
HIM THAT WE WOULD AUTHORIZE YOU IMMEDIATELY TO MAKE THE
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NECESSARY CHANGES IN DRAFT NOTE CONTAINED REFTEL C.

2. WE DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH THE BASIS FOR EXEMPTION
OF PRODUCTS UNDER ARTICLE 12:3 OF THE MULTIFIBER
ARRANGEMENT (MFA) AND, WITH ASSURANCES FROM VALDEPENAS
THAT IT WAS CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT ANY ITEMS ON THE
PHILIPPINE LIST MUST MEET THE CRITERIA FOR BEING A

"TRADITIONAL" PRODUCT, WE AGREED TO INCLUSION OF THE JULY 1, 1976 LETTER PHRASEOLOGY ON CROCHET WORK. AT THE SAME TIME, WE POINTED OUT THAT THE EXEMPTION ON MACRAME SHOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF A SEPARATE SUBPARAGRAPH IN THE

AGREEMENT SINCE MACRAME DOES NOT NEED TO MEET THE "TRADITIONAL" CRITERIA.

3. VALDEPENAS AGREED WITH US THAT PARAGRAPH 7 (B) OF THE OLD BILATERAL WAS NOT APPLICABLE TO THE NEW ONE SINCE THERE WILL BE NO CONSULTATION LEVELS UNDER THE NEW AGREEMENT. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT WE WOULD CORRECT TWO CATEGORY CITATIONS IN ANNEX B.

4. WE WILL LET YOU KNOW LATER IF YOU NEED TO DO ANYTHING FURTHER REGARDING THE EXCHANGE OF CONFIDENTIAL LETTERS ON IMPORT CONTROLS. WE HAVE GIVEN VALDEPENAS COPIES OF DRAFTS FOR THE EXCHANGE AND SUGGESTED THAT HE AND MICHAEL B. SMITH MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO DO SO. VALDEPENAS WAS SUPPOSED TO LEAVE WASHINGTON SATURDAY BUT HE MAY TELEPHONE SMITH THIS WEEK. THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES FOR THE AGREEMENT NEED NOT BE DELAYED IN THIS REGARD.

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR DOING WHATEVER IS POSSIBLE TO EXPEDITE THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES TO CONCLUDE THE NEW AGREEMENT. EMBASSY IS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHANGES IN THE DRAFT NOTE:

A. PARAGRAPH 10 BECOMES 10(A). A NEW PARAGRAPH 10 (B) SHOULD BE ADDED AS FOLLOWS: "THIS AGREEMENT SHALL NOT APPLY TO HAND PLIED OR BRAIDED AND HAND TIED MACRAME HANDICRAFT ARTICLES, NOT COMBINED WITH WOVEN OR KNIT MATERIAL, (EXCEPT IF SUCH MATERIAL IS USED FOR NON-ESSENTIAL DECORATIVE AND ORNAMENTAL PURPOSES ONLY)."

B. THE CATEGORY NUMBERS LISTED IN ANNEX B WITH YARN AND FABRIC OF COTTON AND MAN-MADE FIBER SHOULD BE CHANGED TO (300-320, 600-627). THOSE CATEGORIES APPEARED INCORRECTLY AS (300-301, 600-605) IN REFTEL C.

C. ANNEX C SHOULD INCLUDE WITH THE "PHILIPPINE ITEMS" HEADING THE FOLLOWING AS CONTAINED IN THE JULY 1, 1976 LETTER: "PHILIPPINE TRADITIONAL FOLKLORE HANDICRAFT TEXTILE PRODUCTS

"PHILIPPINE ITEMS" ARE TRADITIONAL PHILIPPINE PRODUCTS, CUT, SEWN, OR OTHERWISE FABRICATED BY HAND IN COTTON UNITS OF THE COTTAGE INDUSTRY. THE FOLLOWING IS THE AGREED

UPON LIST OF SUCH ITEMS:"

THE SECTION ON CROCHET GOODS INCLUDED IN ANNEX C SHOULD
READ EXACTLY AS THE CITATION IN THE JULY 1, 1976 LETTER
WHICH IS AS FOLLOWS: "HAND CROCHETED GARMENTS, SHAWLS,

HATS, AND ACCESSORIES, INCLUDING THE "CATSA GROUP" TYPE
GARMENTS(HEAVILY HAND CROCHET WORK IN COMBINATION WITH
COARSE GREIGE OR DYED COTTON FABRIC OR BATIK FABRIC.)"
THE PARAGRAPH ON MACRAME SHOULD BE OMITTED FROM ANNEX C.
CHRISTOPHER

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